



State of Wisconsin  
Department of Public Instruction  
Elizabeth Burmaster, State Superintendent

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\*\*\***NEWS RELEASE**\*\*\*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## Nine grants to support service-learning activities throughout the state

MADISON—State Superintendent Elizabeth Burmaster announced nine grants, totaling \$158,116, to support service-learning activities in schools throughout the state.

Service learning is a teaching and learning strategy that combines academic work with service activities. Students learn by doing through a clear application of skills and knowledge, founded on state academic standards, while helping meet needs in the school or greater community.

“Service learning reinforces the civic mission of our schools,” Burmaster said. “Through service learning, students apply what they have learned in the classroom to improve their school or local community, deepening their understanding and increasing their ability to think critically and craft solutions to problems in the world around them.”

Districts and consortia receiving grants are

- ACES Xavier Educational System, Appleton - \$11,700;
- Cooperative Educational Service Agency 11 - \$12,000, which includes the school districts of St. Croix Central and Clear Lake;
- Eau Claire Area School District - \$18,000;
- Flambeau School District - \$10,000;
- Green Bay Area School District - \$12,000;
- Madison Metropolitan School District - \$10,000;
- Slinger School District - \$11,000;
- Southeastern Wisconsin Service-Learning Consortium - \$57,587, which includes the school districts of Greendale, Kenosha, Milwaukee Public, Oak Creek-Franklin, Raymond #14, Whitefish Bay, and West Allis-West Milwaukee; and

(more)

- Weyauwega-Fremont Consortium - \$16,000, which includes the school districts of Clintonville, Iola-Scandinavia, Manawa, Marion, New London, Waupaca, and Weyauwega-Fremont.

Grant recipients will use funding to advance service learning as a key district initiative. Funds may be used to strategically plan and implement service learning as an effective instructional methodology in K-12 classrooms throughout the participating districts. Specific grant activities will include:

- creating an advisory board to develop a strategic plan for implementation and policy development at the district level;
- providing ongoing professional development to incrementally increase educator skills in high-quality service-learning practice;
- participating actively in the Wisconsin Service-Learning Network, including attendance at regional and state meetings, participating in WisLine Web sessions, and presenting at conferences and local events; and
- contributing to the state evaluation of the Learn and Serve program to be conducted by RMC Research Corporation.

“Service learning supports our efforts to create schools that provide an education that is both rigorous and relevant. It teaches the 21st century skills that help students demonstrate deeper, more integrated application of knowledge and helps them understand their part in our interconnected world,” Burmaster said.

Funding for the Learn and Serve Wisconsin grants comes from the Learn and Serve America program of the Corporation for National and Community Service. The federal grants for high-quality, service-learning activities require a match of 150 percent, which can be from cash or in-kind contributions, including other federal sources. Consortium grants with plans for networking among districts were encouraged.

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